

Permits, Fees, and Requirements

**The firewood permit season is
January 1st to December 31st.**

Personal Use Firewood Permits are required for cutting and removal of firewood. There is a 4-cord minimum, 12-cord maximum per adult limit per year. Visit our Forest Products Page (<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/kootenai/passes-permits/?cid=stelprdb5279878>) for up-to-date information on permit costs. Personal use firewood permits are valid for the entire Forest Service Northern Region. Contact local forests before cutting for local regulations.

Commercial Firewood quantities are typically sold as commercial timber sales. Contact your local Kootenai National Forest office for information on commercial firewood.

Campfire Wood gathering of wood that will be burned at your camp is allowed without a permit. A permit is required to transport any unused firewood home.

What is a Cord?

One cord of firewood is measured as

8ft L x 4ft W x 4ft H split and stacked in the bed of the truck.

Kootenai National Forest Contact Information

Contact any ranger district to obtain a firewood permit for the Kootenai National Forest.

**Kootenai National Forest
Supervisors Office**
(406) 293-6211
31374 US Hwy. 2
Libby, MT 59923
8am-4:30 pm

Ksanka Ranger Station
(406)-296-2536
949 U.S. Hwy 93 N.
Eureka, MT 59917
8am-4:30pm

Three Rivers Ranger Station
(406)-295-4693
12858 US Hwy. 2
Troy, MT 59935
8am-4:30pm

Canoe Gulch Ranger Station
(406)- 293-7773
12557 Hwy. 37
Libby, MT 59923
8am-4:30pm

Cabinet Ranger Station
(406)- 827-3533
2693 MT Hwy. 200
Trout Creek, MT 59874
7:30am-4pm

Kootenai National Forest Firewood Cutting Guide



General Rules

- Firewood permits authorize cutting of **dead** down trees as well **as standing dead trees** within the permitted area.
- **Six feet** is the **maximum** piece length that may be removed.
- **Do not cut** Cedar or Pacific Yew.
- **Do not cut** standing dead trees or down logs with signs, tags or paint marks on them.
- **Do not cut** or remove firewood from developed recreation sites, campgrounds, or Wild and Scenic river corridors.
- **Do not cut** or remove firewood from active timber sale units or other areas designated (by maps or signs) as closed to firewood cutting.
- Trees or logs **must NOT be** felled or skidded across live streams, lakes, or reservoirs. If a tree is accidentally felled into a waterway, leave the entire tree. Firewood gathering is prohibited within 150 feet of any running stream, pond, lake, marshy, or wet area, unless otherwise designated by the agency on whose land you wish to harvest firewood.
- Vehicles are restricted to roads. If winching, cable systems **cannot** be in excess of 100 feet.

General Rules (cont.)

- Permittee parking **shall not** block traffic or impede fire or emergency vehicles.
- **During the Proclaimed Fire Season:**
 - a) Chainsaw operators must have a serviceable fire extinguisher and a shovel.
 - b) Chainsaws must be equipped with an approved spark arrester screen.
 - c) Vehicles must be equipped with a baffled muffler and serviceable tailpipe.
- Firewood obtained under this permit is intended for **personal use only**.

General Rules (cont.)

Common types of trees in northwest Montana and their heat values in BTUs (British Thermal Units) are listed below. Higher BTUs mean more heat.

Tree Species	BTUs
Western Larch	22.3
Douglas-Fir	20.6
Lodgepole Pine	17.5
Ponderosa Pine	17.1
Grand (white) Fir	16.7
Spruce	15.0
Subalpine Fir	13.6

Considerations

- Review this brochure and the conditions on the back of your permit carefully.
- Don't forget to complete the **Product Quantity Removal Record** on your permit prior to leaving the cutting location.
- Avoid cutting wild-life trees. Standing dead trees (snags) are a source of food, nests, perches, and protective cover for many birds, mammals, insects, and other animals. These trees usually have broken tops, visible nests, holes in the trunk, conks, or swellings.
- Cut safely. When cutting near a road have someone to watch for and stop traffic.

Get a Map

- Obtain a current Forest Service Map and be sure you are cutting on National Forest land, and not on private or state land.
- Motor Vehicle Use Maps for designated motorized roads and seasonal closures are available for free. Motorized travel off designated roads and trails is prohibited.